

# What can I do?

## Patriotic Americans seek ways to support and win the war on terror

By Bob Rosenburgh

The terror attacks of Sept. 11 took a huge toll in human life and property as well as sending a shock through the economy. In short order, the country was put on a war footing both at home and abroad while military and law enforcement organizations work to seek out and stop the perpetrators once and for all. As the government goes into overdrive, most of the country's private citizens want to do all they can to assist the overall effort. Above a chorus of questions like "how could this happen," "what comes next" or "when will we be safe again," comes the most important thing everyone is asking - "What can I do?"

This is no time, therefore, for those in uniform to stand in the shadows, whether directly involved in combat and security operations or seemingly isolated and remote from the "big picture." All soldiers, cadets, Army civilians and Army retirees must step

forward and "show the flag." Not just the Stars and Stripes, although that is an important part of our unity. America looks to the military for its strength and we must be visible and active to bolster public confidence. That means proudly wearing the uniform to demonstrate our determination, addressing public groups on military issues to allay fears and keep the populace informed. It means assisting nearby active and reserve military units and communities whenever possible and demonstrating the confidence that our nation will overcome the current crisis no matter how long it takes.

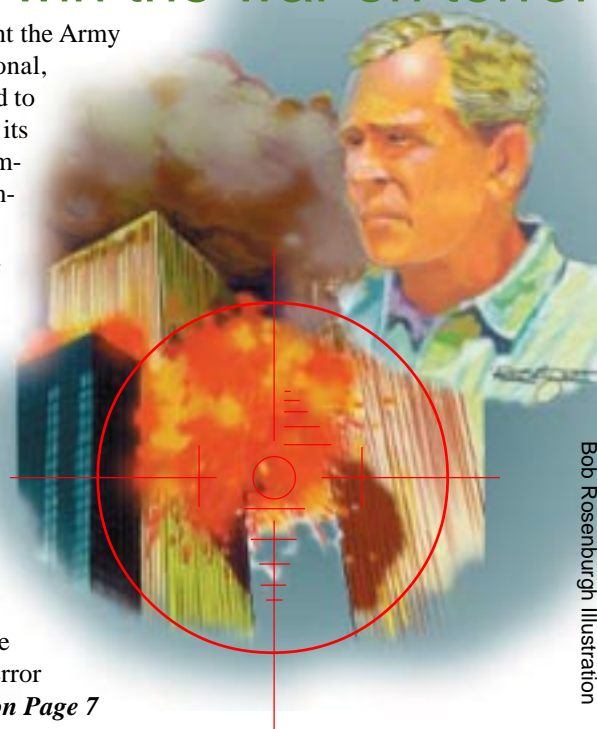
As the next generation of Army leaders, those cadets who are college students today will soon be directly involved in the military operations of this new campaign. But their opportunity to support the mission has already begun. As the most visible, and most accessible, military presence in hundreds of communities nationwide, ROTC

cadre and cadets must represent the Army as it is - dedicated, professional, modern, diverse and committed to the Constitution, our nation and its people. We must always remember that we are bound by a common denominator - liberty.

As President George W. Bush said in his inaugural address, "America has never been united by blood or birth or soil. We are bound by ideals that move us beyond our backgrounds, lift us above our interests and teach us what it means to be citizens."

With those prophetic words, long before Sept. 11, he underscored why no act of terror

*"What can I do?" continued on Page 7*



Bob Rosenburgh Illustration

# Alumnus Myers meets Wildcat cadets

## New Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff re-visits his Kansas State University alma mater

Courtesy of Kansas State University ROTC

Gen. Richard Myers, the 15th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and his wife were distinguished guests at a luncheon hosted by Col. Bill Conrad, Professor of Aerospace Studies and Lt. Col. Art DeGroat, commander of the Wildcat Army ROTC Battalion, along with 30 Army and Air Force cadets at Kansas State University Oct. 27. Myers earned his own commission there in 1965. The general and his wife spent nearly three hours discussing leadership, service to nation and some future security issues with the "next generation" of Army and Air Force officers from K-State.

Myers told the cadets this is an unprecedented period of American history and their service as officers is critical to the future of our nation. While admitting the thought of service in the immediate future is a bit "scary," he pointed out that never before has the military's mission been more direct as today when our homeland is under attack. Myers concluded with encouragement, asking everyone to be confident that the nation's military is fully capable of the challenges ahead. He thanked the cadets for



Gen. Richard Myers (right), Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, visits Army and Air Force ROTC cadets at Kansas State University where he graduated in 1965.

committing themselves to service as military officers and told them to follow their hearts because you never know where it may take you. During his days as a K-State cadet, he admitted that no one, including himself, would have envisioned him rising to senior leadership positions in our military.


Cadet Courtney Townsend, from Fort Riley, said the experience of meeting Myers increased her knowledge of the value of the

ROTC programs at K-State. She added that, "it is great to know that a K-State ROTC graduate can become the highest ranking officer in the nation."

Cadet Sara Zerr, a new freshman cadet from Fort Riley, said Myers' willingness to visit her and fellow cadets added an increased sense of importance to her goal of becoming a U.S. Army officer. She noted, "The fact that Gen. Myers took the time to

inform and motivate us left us all feeling a bit more needed and focused."

Myers' visit had a profound impact upon the 106 cadets of the Wildcat Battalion. In the past year, there has been an increased effort to bring distinguished alumni back to Kansas State University to talk to cadets on an informal basis. To date, they have had nine distinguished national-level alumni return to make personal, professional imprints upon the cadets. The end result has been a significant strengthening of the commitment and resolve to complete their pre-commissioning program. Additionally, interaction with these distinguished alumni helps reflect the great level of respect the nation places on its junior military leaders. These great leaders impart to the cadets the enduring qualities of high-performing professionals of skill, will and passion for service.

Upon departing for the next leg of his trip, Myers presented a coin of excellence to every cadet and promised to return in the near future to meet more Wildcat cadets. 

KSU Photo



**Sooner Battalion carries the colors for patriotism**

Page 3

**Scabbard and Blade looks back at its first century**

Page 4

**Pershing Rifles adds excellence to drill techniques**

Page 5



COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

As we near the end of the fall term at our universities and high schools and prepare for the welcome holiday break, I want to address our individual and collective commitment to wellness and fitness. We tend to narrowly focus on the Army's primary and official measure of fitness - the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT). After all, it is a qualifier for ROTC scholarships, serves as a key performance standard at the National Advanced Leadership Camp, and is a non-waiverable pre-commissioning task. After two-and-a-half years in Cadet Command, I've come to believe that we must take a broader view of fitness. Instead of being obsessed with the next APFT score, we need to elevate our goals to encompass a lifestyle that promotes endurance, strength, the ability to operate effectively under stress and long-term health.

Our nation and Army need civilian and military leaders who can lead by example well into their 50s and 60s. A muscle-bound lieutenant who peaks at age 25 and can't function in front of soldiers at age 45 is not the model we should pursue. A lifelong commitment to cardiovascular fitness,

stable body weight, strength and flexibility and sensible nutrition should begin as early as possible. Whatever your present eating, tobacco use, and exercise habits, you need to take personal inventory of your lifestyle. Smoking, heavy use of "nutritional" or "dietary supplements" and a pattern of inconsistent exercise that puts you through purgatory just before the periodic APFT are individual choices that can be destructive in the long term and certainly



Col. Daniel S. Challis

frustrate anyone's steady progression to sustainable fitness. While in the ROTC environment, you are constantly bombarded by leadership's message to get fit and stay fit. My question to you is: "Away from your ROTC cadre's scrutiny, do you really pursue fitness and wellness?" On weekends; on cold, rainy, dark mornings; during school breaks or vacations, do you lapse into old, bad habits and then pay the price at your next PT session or gym workout? How committed are you to taking care of yourself when no one is looking?

As an Army officer on the "other side" of 50, I guarantee that soldiers expect battalion and brigade commanders to be fit, function with little sleep and make good decisions under stress. That can't happen if your exercise, eating and recreational habits are not internally driven. I challenge you to establish the personal regimens now in your life that ensure you meet the personal, family and professional obligations you will shoulder over the next 30+ years. As you enjoy that well-deserved break over the coming holidays, take stock of your readiness for the long haul. Make the necessary lifestyle changes and commitments now that will pay off decades later. God bless you and your families this holiday season. **Ruck up & move out!**

NCO NOTES

Yesterday I received an e-mail request to help draft special instructions for the upcoming Master Sergeant selection board. Many of the non-traditional assignments: i.e., Observer Controller, Drill Sergeant, and Inspector General positions provide extra information to the board. In all cases it was a very brief paragraph outlining the prerequisites, if any, and the over-all or special duties commensurate to the assignment. So I set about trying to describe what to do and what is required to be successful as a Military Science Instructor in a ROTC assignment. And, by the way, the challenge was to do it in 50 words or less. After just a few minutes I realized there was no way to do it in one paragraph. To gain a better perspective (and perhaps plagiarize) I carefully reviewed all the other non-traditional assignments and information they provided for consideration. Upon completion of my review, many of my perceptions were validated.

Let me explain. I'll share with you portions from each of the other assignments. "Successful Drill Sergeants have demonstrated exceptional leadership, and training skills" - "Observer Controllers have demonstrated exceptional training, coaching, and leadership skills" - "Successful Inspector General NCOs have demonstrated a broad range of technical and tactical knowledge." My point with these comparisons is not to diminish any of the assignments. Clearly, any NCO selected for and successfully serving in any of these assignments is of the highest caliber. But success as



Command Sgt. Maj. Lewis Ferguson

a Military Science Instructor requires all of the above and more. I know you're required to RECRUIT, TRAIN, RETAIN, and COMMISSION our Army's future officer leadership. When you start to peel that onion and closely examine each area you discover you must be much more.

You must be consummate coaches, teachers, and mentors. Daily, you must endeavor to imbue our Army's future leaders with the traits, qualities, values, and skills necessary to meet the challenges of the 21st century. This is both a responsibility and opportunity; you have the responsibility through your efforts to secure the future of our Army and our country for years to come. You also have the opportunity through those same efforts to help shape their collective character and personality. I thank you for the tremendous job you do. I ask that, as the new year approaches, each of us bear down and make sure that we're doing all we can to ensure our current unit is the best unit we've ever been a part of. Remember, No one is more professional than I. I am a noncommissioned officer, a leader of soldiers. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored corps, which is known as "THE BACKBONE OF THE ARMY."

# Arizona nursing cadet is a female football pioneer

By Jennifer Moody  
Courtesy of *The Canyon Echoes*

Robin Campbell is a nursing student. She's also an Army ROTC leader, a daughter, a girlfriend, and a physical trainer. Now, she is even a professional football player.

A second-year nursing major, Campbell has a busy schedule, especially now that she plays defense for the Arizona Caliente, the local team of the newly formed Women's American Football League (WAFL).

"When I first found out about [the WAFL], I was really excited. I train football players, so I was like, 'Wow, a real women's football team?'" said Campbell.

With so many other obligations, Campbell doesn't have much free time.

"This is trade-off for work. She wants

to play awfully bad, and she's given up a lot to play," said Robin's mother, Kathy Michelon from Mesa. "I thought she'd go back to work and drop this."

Instead, Campbell gave up her job to play on the full-contact women's football team. With practice three days a week, there isn't much time left for a job, too.

"Time management is very hard. I've had to leave practice early twice to study and for ROTC. [Last week] I had three practices and three finals. It gives me stress to get rid of on the field," said Campbell. "The main problem I've had is keeping up with my family. I'm not able to go over and see

them as much as I used to."

The sacrifices seem worth it, since this isn't the first time she has tried to play football.

"I tried out in high school, but the coach wouldn't even let me on the field because I was a girl."

Her family and friends are supportive of her decision to pursue playing the game.

"My dad said, 'Go ahead and whatever you want, just be careful.' My grandma and grandpa said not to get hurt," said Campbell.

Michelon said, 'I told her the first time one of those 260-pound girls flatten her, she's go-

ing to have second thoughts. I know how easily she gets hurt, and I've seen her fingers about as black and blue as I've seen fingers without being broken."

But as a physical trainer and nursing major, Campbell knows how to take care of herself.

"Two of us who actually play on the team are physical trainers. Whenever somebody gets hurt we take care of them to the best of our abilities. But when we have games, we will have a professional trainer out there," said Campbell.

"I hope to continue playing. I've got another year and a half after this, so I can play another season or two, and then I get commissioned," said Campbell. "For as far as we've come [as a team], I'm just very impressed."



Photo courtesy of Arizona Caliente

Cadet Robin Campbell



# Sooner Battalion carries Old Glory in the National Flag Run

By Capt. Amy Gagnon  
University of Oklahoma - Norman

On Oct. 29, the cadets and cadre of the Sooner Battalion at University of Oklahoma - Norman, proudly participated in the nationwide flag run.

The flag run began in Boston and was carried by runners of all ages, around the clock, following the scheduled path of American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175. The flag carried by the cadets was originally flown from a U.S. Air Force F-16 fighter jet over some areas of Operation Southern Watch and visited “Ground Zero” where the World Trade Center stood.

The cadets and cadre, along with Air Force and Navy cadets and soldiers from the Oklahoma Air National Guard, picked up the police-escorted flag around noon. The Sooner Battalion then ran the flag through their campus and were greeted at the end of the route by a cheering crowd accompanied by the OU Sooner band. The flag was then handed off to U.S. Representative J.C. Watts (R-Okla.). The Sooner Battalion was recognized in numerous local newspapers.

The cadets and cadre not only had a great time but also were able to reflect on how important our flag is to us and how proud we were to show our support for the United States of America.

Cadet John D. Johnson, an MS-II majoring in Engineering, led the way alongside the American flag by carrying the Oklahoma State flag for over 18 miles.

The flag’s journey was completed on Veteran’s Day in Los Angeles.



Bill Carter - Norman Transcript

Cadet Tisha A. Jeffries carries the American flag, closely paced by Cadet John D. Johnson with the state flag of Oklahoma. Both University of Oklahoma - Norman cadets were participants in the coast-to-coast National Flag Run.

## Tributes and remembrance mark SDSU military ball: Cadets honor fallen heroes, prisoners of war and the missing in action from past conflicts

By Maj. Charles Blaisdell  
South Dakota State University

A crowd of approximately 350 people gathered as cadets and their guests participated in a longstanding ROTC tradition at South Dakota State University (SDSU).

The Annual Army and Air Force ROTC Military Ball was held Nov. 2 at the Brookings Inn, Brookings, S. D.

Host for the event was Cadet Nicholi Arnio, cadet battalion commander at the “West Point of the Plains.” Lt. Col. Keith W. Corbett was President of the Mess and a special guest, “G.I. Johnny,” made a surprise appearance to deliver a bottle of Blackberry Merlot.

Cadet Bridget Fuller gave a moving invocation that honored the victims of the attacks on New York City and the Pentagon. She asked that the supreme power “wipe the tears from our eyes and the fear from our hearts.” Toasts to the president, the Army, the Air Force, and SDSU were followed by a toast of silence to our POW/MIA comrades.

A rose, salt, an overturned water glass, a slice of lemon and an empty seat were the key ingredients to a ceremony that recognized the POW/MIAs absent from the ranks. Each, in turn, was explained by its significance: “A rose to remind us to maintain a proper account of those missing” - “Salt on the plate is symbolic of family tears shed while they wait” - “An inverted water glass for those who cannot toast with us tonight” - “The slice of lemon is on the plate reminding us of the bitter fate of POWs.” Each of the four services was represented by a service cap surrounding the empty place setting.

A lighthearted tribute to the one Air Force and five Army cadets graduating in December was presented by two of their classmates. The multimedia presentation combined a slide show set to music and family letters read to the audience.

Bob Miller, a retired chief executive officer of Centron Computer Corporation, was the keynote speaker for the event. A SDSU alumnus, Miller was active in ROTC serving as cadet colonel. After a tour in the U.S.



Maj. Charles Blaisdell

SDSU’s own Cadet Andrea Twedt (left) performed vocals with the 147th Army “ROCK” Band at the 2001 Military Ball.

Army as a finance officer, he went to work for IBM before starting up his own company. Bob served as chair of the scholarship committee for a successful campaign to raise \$50 million for SDSU. He sponsors six scholarships annually including a four-year SDSU Foundation Scholarship.

In his address, Miller said, “what I see on your uniform makes me feel great.” He was happy to see the experience and quality of cadets and cadre reflected in the awards they wore. “Keepers of freedom,” was his starting point as he addressed the discipline and leadership of what he termed a great scholarship program - ROTC. He concluded with, “you can’t have a better foundation for your future than your military career.”

The evening was capped off with a dance featuring the 147th Army “ROCK” Band. A highlight of the performance was the singing of SDSU MS-II Cadet Andrea Twedt. Another SDSU cadet, playing the keyboard for the band, was Reagan Norgaard.

## All-American cadet is exceptional soldier, scholar, athlete and leader

By Maj. Michael DeBolt  
Creighton University Army ROTC

“Your arm swing determines the pace. Remember to control your breathing. Keep your form, relax and stay focused.”

These are the thoughts of collegiate cross-country runner and exemplary scholar, athlete and leader, Cadet Alicia Widtfeldt. Her most recent accomplishment was achieving Academic All-American status at the recent Briar Cliff University Cross-Country Invitational. She finished the 5-kilometer course in 20 minutes and 26 seconds, averaging 6:43-per-mile. Currently a junior in the Creighton University Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program, Widtfeldt showed what hard work and determination can accomplish.

Attending Dana College in Blair, Neb., Widtfeldt has her ROTC classes at Creighton University in Omaha. She currently maintains a 4.0 GPA in her Business Administration academic major and ROTC classes.

Alicia scored a 373 on the extended Army Physical Fitness Test while attending Advanced Individual Training as a Personnel Service Specialist. Upon completion, the commandant of the Adjutant General school recognized her with an Army Achievement medal as Distinguished Honor Graduate for her academic and physical fitness achievements. She maintained a 99.4 grade average and won the 369th Battalion Soldier of the Week Board.

Not slowing down, Widtfeldt attended Airborne school and annual training with her Army Reserve unit during this summer.

In September she was selected as the runner-up U. S. Army Reserve 95th Training Division Soldier of the Year. Barbara Layman, unit administrator, said Widtfeldt is a very confident and quiet young lady who shows great humility in accepting praise. Layman also noted, “Widtfeldt will make an outstanding officer and has the leadership qualities to be successful in any endeavor she chooses.”

As a member of the Army Reserve, Widtfeldt recently applied for and was selected for a Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty scholarship.

Widtfeldt’s ability to stay focused and maintain a disciplined schedule has made her an All-American scholar, athlete, and leader who remains committed to serving her country and looks forward to pinning on the gold bar of a second lieutenant.





# Scabbard and Blade centennial approaches

By Brig. Gen. Douglas O. Dollar  
United States Army Reserve

Alumni of the 97-year-old Scabbard and Blade national military honor society have long been an important part of fostering fraternal ties in graduates of the nation's Reserve Officers Training Corps programs while also structuring their organization to support ROTC with recruiting and mentoring.

The approaching National Society of Scabbard and Blade centennial has highlighted a need to adapt to the changing nature of ROTC to remain relevant. A soon-to-be-completed data base of approximately 150,000 members and alumni will be a major step in preparing the group's efforts for the 21st Century, but new and better activities to advance ROTC are a must for the unique organization to grow.

Many ROTC cadre and cadets are generally familiar with the society, but most have a vague idea about its purposes and history. Here is a brief rundown.

### Society Grew Rapidly

Scabbard and Blade was founded at the University of Wisconsin during the school year of 1904-1905 by five senior officers in the cadet corps. The primary purpose of the new organization was, in the words of the founders: ... to raise the standard of military education in American colleges and universities; to unite in closer relationship their military departments; to encourage and foster the essential qualities of good and efficient officers; and to promote friendship and good fellowship among the cadet officers.

The society also disseminates knowledge of military education to the students and people of the country and acquaints the public with our national defense needs.

From the wisdom of these five founders came the establishment of a lasting all-service society which has been recognized over the years, both locally and nationally, as an organization of high prestige and ideals. The growth of the society for over 70 years was steady in both members and companies. Companies were established in many of the nation's leading colleges and universities that hosted ROTC units. In 1915 there were approximately 866 members, but by 1950, 51,000 students and alumni were on the member rolls. Today Scabbard and Blade boasts ap-

proximately 137,000 active and alumni members, as well as 8,925 honorary and associate members.

The prestige of the Society grew from the 1930s into the 1960s, while key national-defense leaders participated in the organization's biennial national conventions. In 1999 Junior Scabbard and Blade was formed in high schools and an expanded vision was launched for the society. Today, the society's members hope to instill a strong leadership and service orientation throughout its membership, emphasizing mentoring of youth for productive citizenship.

### Life-Long Association Stressed

Society members enjoy life-long association with other recognized leaders in the cadet/midshipmen corps. Many field-grade and flag-rank officers are alumni and associate members who take an active interest in society activities, offering their assistance and advice on the local and national level.

Some of the most outstanding alumni members include former President Herbert Hoover, former Secretary of State Dean Rusk, astronaut John Young, and Sam Walton, founder of Wal-Mart. Included among associate members are many of the professors of Military Science, Aerospace Studies, Naval Science, and the presidents of our leading colleges and universities.

Some of the outstanding honorary members include former President Franklin Roosevelt, Gen. John J. Pershing, noted aviator Charles Lindberg, Medal of Honor recipient Roger H.C. Donlon and Gen. Colin Powell.

Today's candidates for membership must have good scholastic standing in both academic and military subjects. Additionally, members are encouraged to serve in extra-curricular activities representing Scabbard and Blade to campus and off-campus groups. Those elected to membership must exemplify outstanding ethical and moral character.

The society's upcoming search for alumni is based on paper records beginning prior to 1910 and electronic records beginning in 1993. An estimated 50,000-plus updated alumni records will be added to the society's data base, contributing to the initiation of new nationwide programs.

### Activities Feature Service

The society works to project its traditions into the 21st century, towards its centennial and beyond. The essential programs of work of the society occur at the school or local level of organization. The state and regional levels of organization provide for combined activities through volunteers, who coordinate with local organizations and obtain support from the national headquarters.

Activities have been selected for the three phases of society membership to support the major thrust of the organization at each phase and to provide mutual support and a logical relationship among and between the programs.

The major thrust of the Junior Scabbard and Blade in high schools is character building and encouragement for young students to attend college and participate in Senior ROTC. Therefore, Junior ROTC instructors nominate



Cadet officers from Army and Navy programs pose for a group photo during the 1915 Scabbard and Blade national convention.

Courtesy of Scabbard and Blade

students for membership based on their potential and desire to attend college. Visits to college campuses heads the list of activities, because such events directly relate to the major thrust at this phase of membership.


Scabbard and Blade at the Senior ROTC phase traditionally has served as a military honor society. Students are nominated for membership in the society at this phase as a reward for high or improved academic performance and for their potential to excel as an officer in the U.S. military. The nature of various activities at this phase change to become more service oriented. For example, companies are encouraged to plan and host Campus Days Visits for Junior Scabbard and Blade companies in their area or state. Such events become service projects for the company members.

During the alumni phase, fraternal and civic activities become the thrust for members. Informal area and unit alumni posts are encouraged for the purpose of fraternal association, and more importantly to support junior and senior Scabbard and Blade companies by speaking at company meetings, organizing staff rides, campus visits, state and regional meetings, and similar activities. Alumni become the volunteer field representatives who, following procedures outlined in alumni volunteer manuals and soliciting support from the national headquarters, approach and help high school and college ROTC units organize new Scabbard and Blade companies and encourage activities among companies.

Activities have been identified which support the main thrusts of the society, are relatively easy to accomplish, and result in sensible supportive relationships among all phases of membership. In short, as it enters its second century, Scabbard and Blade will offer ROTC graduates lasting ties with fellow officers as well as a way to serve the nation's youth as mentors and advocates.

### To Become Involved

All individuals interested in working with the nation's youth to instill the ideals of the Society's founders, provide them the opportunity for personal growth, and pursue the vision of today's Scabbard and Blade members, are encouraged to become involved in the organization as it enters the 21st Century.

Direct your questions, on the Internet, to [www.scabbardandblade.org](http://www.scabbardandblade.org), by calling (405) 377-2237, or by writing the society at 1018 South Lewis Street, Stillwater, Okla. 74074. 

Brig. Gen. Douglas Dollar was commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry from the ROTC at Oklahoma State University in 1968. A Distinguished Military Graduate, he served as a rifle platoon leader in the Americal Division in Vietnam. He currently commands the 80th Division (Institutional Training), an Army Reserve organization headquartered in Richmond, Va. He also is president of New Forums Press located in Stillwater, Okla., and is the National Executive Officer of Scabbard and Blade.



Cadet Brett B. Dohnal stands beside a monument erected at the University of Wisconsin commemorating the founding of Scabbard and Blade there in 1904. Dohnal was recognized for special leadership in reactivating the Society's mother company.

Courtesy of Scabbard and Blade



Army ROTC cadets reactivated Company K, 7th Regiment, of Scabbard and Blade at Oklahoma State University in 1996.

Courtesy of Scabbard and Blade



# Pershing Rifles promotes friendship, efficiency

## National society's checkered history reflects 111 years of military excellence

By Maj. Matt Person  
University of Nebraska ROTC

**"To foster a spirit of friendship** and cooperation among men in the military department and to maintain a highly efficient drill company." This is the purpose of the Pershing Rifles, as propounded by its distinguished founder in the early 1890s.

The original group was founded by John J. Pershing, who later became General of the Armies, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, and the man who created the structure of the Army we know today from almost nothing in the 1920s.

In 1891, Pershing, who was just a second lieutenant in the 6th Cavalry, became Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the University of Nebraska. Wishing to improve the morale of the cadet unit, he formed a select company of men, thereafter known as Company A.

In 1892, the National Competitive Drills were held in Omaha, Neb. Company A won the competition. In 1893, the special drill company became a fraternal organization bearing the name of "Varsity Rifles." By 1894, in appreciation of the initiative and cooperation of Pershing, the organization changed its name to "Pershing Rifles."

**When Pershing left Nebraska in 1895**, at the request of a committee he gave the company a pair of his cavalry breeches. These breeches were cut into small pieces and were worn on the uniform as a sign of membership. These "ribbons" were the first service ribbons ever worn in the United States.

During the Spanish-American War, 30 members of the now-powerful Pershing Rifles enlisted in the 1st Nebraska Volunteers. W. H. Oury, captain of the Pershing Rifles and now a full colonel in the regular army, was placed in command. Another Pershing Rifleman by the name of Robbins was made the first sergeant. He later achieved high position in the war department. Every one of the 30 distinguished himself in the ensuing battles.

From 1900 to 1911, Pershing Rifles reached the height of its existence prior to World War I. It was one of the most important features of Nebraska military and social life. Membership was a great military honor. Its influence in the Military department continued strong until 1911.

After 1911 the organization suddenly lost prestige and declined deplorably. Its activity suddenly seemed to cease. The organization became a mere shadow of itself. Its military influence plummeted and its social activities dropped.

**In 1917, the conditions became so bad** that the organization was disbanded and its records were burned. Thus in seven short years, this promising organization had passed from national renown to oblivion.

In 1920 Pershing Rifles was reborn. Out of the ashes

of the organization that had died of its own weight in 1917, there sprang a corps with new life and activity. It was obvious the prestige of the early 1900s was missing.

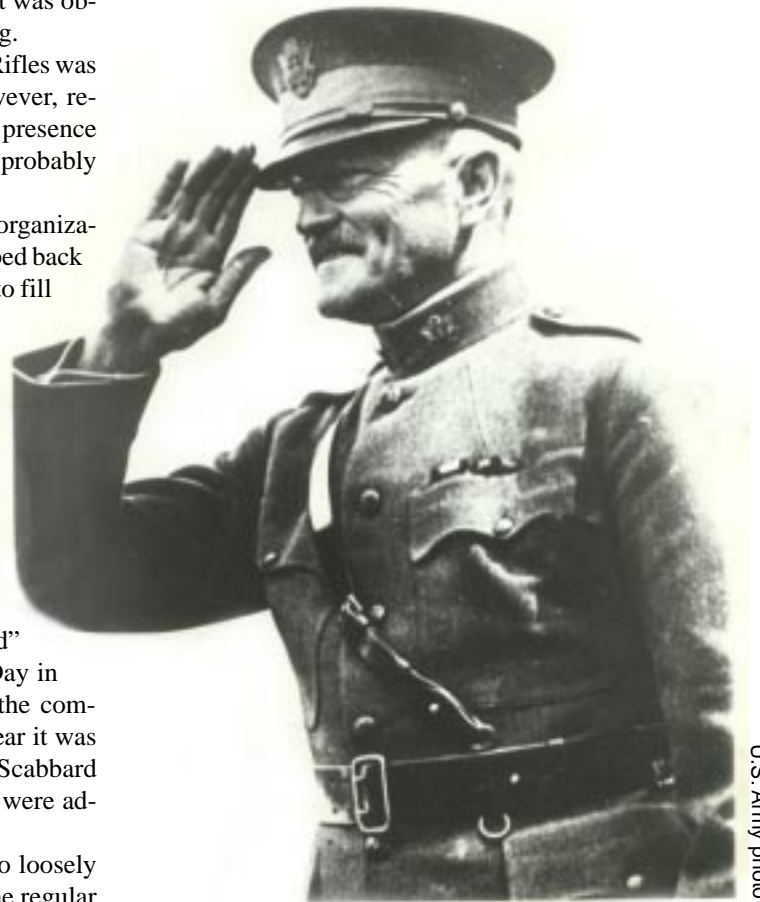
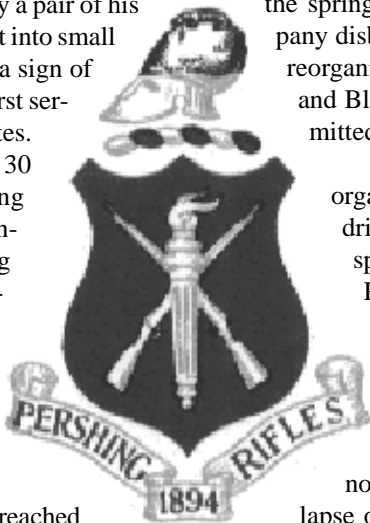
As originally organized in 1920, Pershing Rifles was an organization for junior officers. It soon, however, regained its status as a basic military society. The presence of Scabbard and Blade on the Nebraska campus probably curtailed its growth as an officers' organization.

The growth of Pershing Rifles after its reorganization is as remarkable as its former decline. It stepped back into its old niche and strove to grow big enough to fill it again. By 1924, it had regained some of its lost prestige. Special drill companies all over the country began to seek admittance into Pershing Rifles.

The present National Honorary Society of Pershing Rifles owes its existence to Ohio State University. In the fall of 1922, a group of advanced-course men joined together and formed "The President's Guard." It was so named in honor of William Oxley Thompson, President of Ohio State University. The "Guard" gave an exhibition drill on Military Field Day in the spring of 1923. After this exhibition the company disbanded. In the fall of the same year it was reorganized by the captain of the local Scabbard and Blade chapter and basic-level men were admitted.

**This new organization** was too loosely organized and too closely allied to the regular drill for the company to stand alone. In the spring of 1925, it applied for affiliation with Pershing Rifles. The Nebraska organization refused. The Ohio State group, seeing the need for a national organization for basic men, threatened to nationalize the "President's Guard" and leave Nebraska out of it if the two organizations could not work together. Finally, after a negotiations lapse of over a year, the Nebraska organization approved the formal application of the Ohio State organization. This application was dated May 13, 1925. The chapter was installed on May 22, 1925, by John A. Picker, Colonel of Pershing Rifles.

Thus was inaugurated a new policy in Pershing Rifles. In 1927, the University of Tennessee's crack drill unit was granted a charter by the National Headquarters. This group was designated Company C and was established under the influence of Scabbard and Blade of that school. From this time until 1929, the Nebraska unit concentrated on the establishment of a strong local unit rather than a weak national organization, assuming that if the local unit was made strong, a national organization could be easily organized. Based on this program, Pershing Rifles at Nebraska surpassed even its Spanish-American War




U.S. Army photo

**Gen. John J. Pershing proposed the Pershing Rifles, known then as "Company A," in 1891 when he was a second lieutenant at the University of Nebraska.**

greatness.

**In 1928 the National Headquarters** was established at the University of Nebraska. All of this laid the foundation for a strong national unit. In the summer of this year, a number of circulars were sent to other universities, besides those already having PR units, inviting their crack units to apply for charters from the National Headquarters. Those who knew of the relative value of Pershing Rifles as an organization capable of promoting interest in drill work for basic drill students, heeded the circulars. Also during that summer, officers attached to the schools where there were Pershing Rifles chapters met with officers from other institutions and thus the organization received widespread publicity.

The Pershing Rifles has gone through many changes since the 1890s, but still maintains its place on more than 63 college campuses across the United States, primarily at Army ROTC battalions. To learn more about it, visit the web site at <http://www.unl.edu/prifles/>. 

## UTEP cadets push homecoming spirit to the limit



**Cadet Angel Nevarez rocks the karaoke crowd.**  
Courtesy of UTEP Army ROTC

Cadets in the University of Texas - El Paso's Miners Battalion are a force to be reckoned with when it comes to pumping up the school spirit at sports events. Whether the competitions are vocal or physical, you'll find a UTEP cadet at the front lines of good times.


Angel Nevarez, MS-III cadet, Green-to-Gold and



**Students challenge the cadets at pushups.** former platoon sergeant singing in the 82nd Airborne Division's "All American Chorus," participated in the karaoke competition held at the UTEP homecoming week from Oct. 16-20.



**The UTEP Pushup squad "assumes the position."**

Army ROTC also held a push-up competition where students were allowed to compete for different prizes. More than 12 students challenged the UTEP Army ROTC Push-up Squad, who perform push-ups every time the UTEP Miners football team scores a touchdown. 



# Army ROTC named best at Texas A&M award ceremony

By Capt. John Woodward  
Texas A&M University

The Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M University held its annual Award Ceremony on Kyle Field during Parents Weekend Review this spring, where several units from Army ROTC were recognized as best in the Corps. Four out of the five major company-level awards presented by Texas A&M President, Dr. Ray Bowen and Commandant of Cadets, retired Maj. Gen. Ted Hopgood, were awarded to Army ROTC units.

Mrs. Jeanette Tier, President of the Houston Texas A&M University Mothers' Club, joined Bowen and Hopgood to participate in the presentation of the George P.F. Jouine Award to Company V-1. The Jouine Award recognizes outstanding scholastic performance by an entire unit.

The Cadet Corps has traditionally recognized outstanding military performance through the prestigious Bruno A. Hochmuth Award. To earn this award a unit must have excelled in graded drill and ceremony, inspections, and activity points. The Hochmuth Flag was presented to Company B-1 for the best in overall military achievement.

The Commandant's Flag was awarded to Company C-1 in recognition of the unit that has shown the most improvement in overall military, academic, and extra-curricular activities from the previous year.

Throughout the course of the year individual cadet units participate in a number of intramural events. Outfit teams participate in two categories, fish (freshman) and upperclassman. The winner of each category receives a flag. Additionally, an overall winner is declared, and that winning unit receives the honor of carrying the Penberthy Flag. All three of the Athletic Flags were presented to Company E-1.

As part of the Annual March to the Brazos, Corps units



Capt. John Woodward

Led by its commander, Cadet H. H. Lindemann IV, Army ROTC's Company B1 passes in review at the Texas A&M University's annual awards ceremony. Army cadets swept the awards categories.

raise money in support of the March of Dimes. This year marks the 25th anniversary of this activity and the Corps collected \$158,000. Army ROTC units collected \$64,287 this year. Winning the streamer for raising the highest average amount per cadet was Company C-1.

The award ceremony concluded with the Corps con-

ducting a Pass in Review.

Earlier at the All University Awards Ceremony, over 35 Army ROTC Cadets were individually recognized for their outstanding leadership and work in the classroom, dedication to community service and military science. They received sabers, medals or scholarships totaling more than \$7,000.



# Colorado cadets find field fascinating and fun

By Cadet Melissa Hoffman  
University of Colorado - Boulder

At about 9 a.m. on Oct. 27, more than 100 cadets from both the Colorado School of Mines and the University of Colorado-Boulder stepped off a bus and into Bendela Tour, a Boy Scout camp in northern Colorado located more than 10,000 feet above sea level in the Rocky Mountains. Platoon sergeants shouted encouragement as the cadets scrambled to get their rucksacks and fall into the formation. This formation was the start of a jam-packed day and a half where the cadets would learn basic Army tactics and realize how much fun they could have running around in the woods.

Their first challenge was land-navigation. Each group received a map, a protractor and a set of five grid coordinates where their points must be found. The cadets had about three hours to plot coordinates on their maps and find their points using a compass



Cadet Melissa Hoffman

The STX lanes gave cadets a chance to use their patrolling skills.



Cadet Melissa Hoffman

Colorado cadets are briefed on the course of instruction they will undergo at Bendela Tour.

and pace count. If the cadets succeeded in finding three out of five points, they earned a GO and were able to move to their next challenge, the rappelling site.

Once there, the cadets were taught how to correctly tie a Swiss seat, which would be used as their harness as they rappelled down the rock. The cadets then moved through a series of rappel events, starting at the beginner's slope and ending at the most difficult, which involved maneuvering over an overhang. Before each rappel fellow cadets, who had been trained the previous weekend on the correct way to set up a rappel site and check someone for safety hazards, checked the other cadets for safety. As they moved from site to site you could see the excitement in their faces while hooking into the rope and beginning to move down the rock.

From the rappel site, they moved back to the main area and set up their shelter halves, which would be home for the night. Around 6:30 p.m. chow began and everyone moved through the line for freshly grilled

steaks, elk, baked beans and apples before moving to eat by the bonfire. After about an hour of dinner and getting to know fellow cadets better, they prepared for night land navigation. Night land navigation is handled the same as day navigation, but there are three points to find instead of five and only two hours to find them.

As night land navigation ended the cadets again formed into groups for night patrolling led by the cadre and several MS-IVs. The objective of night patrolling is to learn the correct way to move through the woods and communicate with hand and arm signals as though trying to quietly locate the enemy. The patrolling was a success and, as they returned, the cadets had some hot chocolate and hot ramen noodles to help keep them warm. They were then allowed to go to bed, but many opted to stay up around the bonfire listening to Army stories from the cadre. Cadet Amy Schwartz from the University of Colorado said she enjoyed hearing the cadre talk because she learned cool stuff and inter-



Cadet Melissa Hoffman

A special kind of cliff notes is needed to pass rappelling class.

esting facts that could benefit her in the future.

Morning began at 5:30 a.m. and the cadets were wakened by loud music from a boom box. After half an hour of packing and personal hygiene, classes began about basic military tactics. They rotated through a number of classes learning things like individual movement techniques (ITT), the application of cammo to their faces and hand and arm signals. Afterwards, MS-IV cadets led a group of junior cadets through a STX lane where they had a chance to incorporate all they had learned into one situation. Land nav and effective communication helped them to locate the OPFOR (the enemy) and successfully complete their mission.

After STX lanes and an optional church service, the cadets had a short rucksack march back to the main area where buses were waiting. The buses left around noon and, as the cadets moved back to their respective schools, they could look back on a weekend of good Army training and lots of fun.

As next semester approaches, many cadets are already looking forward to the FTX. Cadets Bryan Kempa, Monroe Hall and Pat Henderson from the Colorado School of Mines said they enjoy rolling around in the woods and are excited to do it again next semester. Cadet Paul Moyle from University of Colorado enjoys doing actual Army stuff and is excited to learn more about Army tactics. The planning for next semester's FTX has already begun as cadre and MS-IVs work to make it even better.





“What can I do?” cont. from Page 1  
can ever divide or break down our national resolve.

The nation relies on the armed forces and the horrendous acts of Sept. 11 were designed to undermine that trust. Terror is not only an immediate threat to life and limb - it soon becomes a lingering fear and paranoid insecurity which the dark forces of evil use to sap our will.

Or so they think.  
Before the attacks of Sept. 11 were even over, Americans from all walks of life were already helping one another survive the carnage. Some even gave their lives to prevent more deaths. As the dust settled and we regained composure, charity funds were quickly established to help the victims and their families. The latest estimates put contributions at over a billion dollars. Each of us can add to that if you haven’t already, but don’t neglect the other charities that normally benefit from our donations. With the cold of winter coming many homeless shelters, food banks and poverty-relief agencies are coming up short on resources. They also need volunteers, a community service that anyone can perform, including healthy young cadets and physically-fit soldiers in their off-duty hours.

Blood donations are also an important service you can render and the Red Cross can answer your questions or schedule a time and place for you to contribute. The Red Cross is also leading a series of programs to help the victims and families affected by Sept. 11 as well as assisting the displaced children of Afghanistan, also innocent victims of terror. For details on Red Cross programs, call 1-866-GET-INFO or 800-526-1417 TDD. Their website is another source of information at [www.redcross.org/](http://www.redcross.org/).

Yet another opportunity to support the struggle against terrorism may soon be coming in the form of War Bonds, an investment opportunity that will also pay dividends in the long run. If pending legislation is completed soon, these monetary instruments will add cash to America’s war chest at the same time it creates a secure bond investment plan. In World War II, War



University of Northern Iowa cadets show their colors in a big way as they display a garrison-size flag from the roof of their gymnasium.

Bonds added \$185 billion to the U.S. Treasury.

Keep yourselves informed of events as they occur and ensure that any information you pass along is accurate and reliable, not the urban-legends and internet-gossip that clouds people’s thoughts and confuses important issues. As leaders, your peers and communities will expect honesty in what you say and do about these critical issues. Get your facts from reliable sources and then get them straight before repeating them. As Maj. Gen. John T. D. Casey, commander of the U.S. Army Cadet Command, has said, “The Army remains a steadying influence - the people of our nation draw confidence from the Army.” He urges soldiers and cadets to lead by example, making themselves available, visible and focused on our mission. “This is a new kind of war that poses a new set of challenges which demand that we bring to bear all elements of our national might.”

Casey said he expects his command to learn the lessons of this unprecedented conflict and apply them to training to better prepare for the mission ahead. On campus, everyone should stay alert for unusual activities or suspicious persons to maintain security. Report incidents through appropriate agencies and keep the lines of communication open throughout the command. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, which is leading the domestic search for terrorists,

has established a hotline to collect tips and leads from the public. Any legitimate bit of information should be called in at 1-866-483-5137. The day after the attacks, FBI Director Robert S. Mueller said, “... we will leave no stone unturned in our quest to help find those responsible and to bring those individuals to justice.” One good tip could make the difference.

Remember, too, that we are a nation of religious, racial and ethnic diversity. Muslim citizens are Americans as well and to treat them as anything but equals is flat wrong. They are just as horrified by these events as we all are and they stand with us in the struggle against terror. Bigotry of any

kind should not and will not be tolerated.  
Although the United States was caught unaware by the scope of crimes these criminals are willing to commit, we have no illusions about what lies ahead and America has mobilized against the enemy. We were hit by a sneak attack in 1941 and, as before, the perpetrators will be crushed. We will restore America’s security and reaffirm the trust in our military to defend the nation.

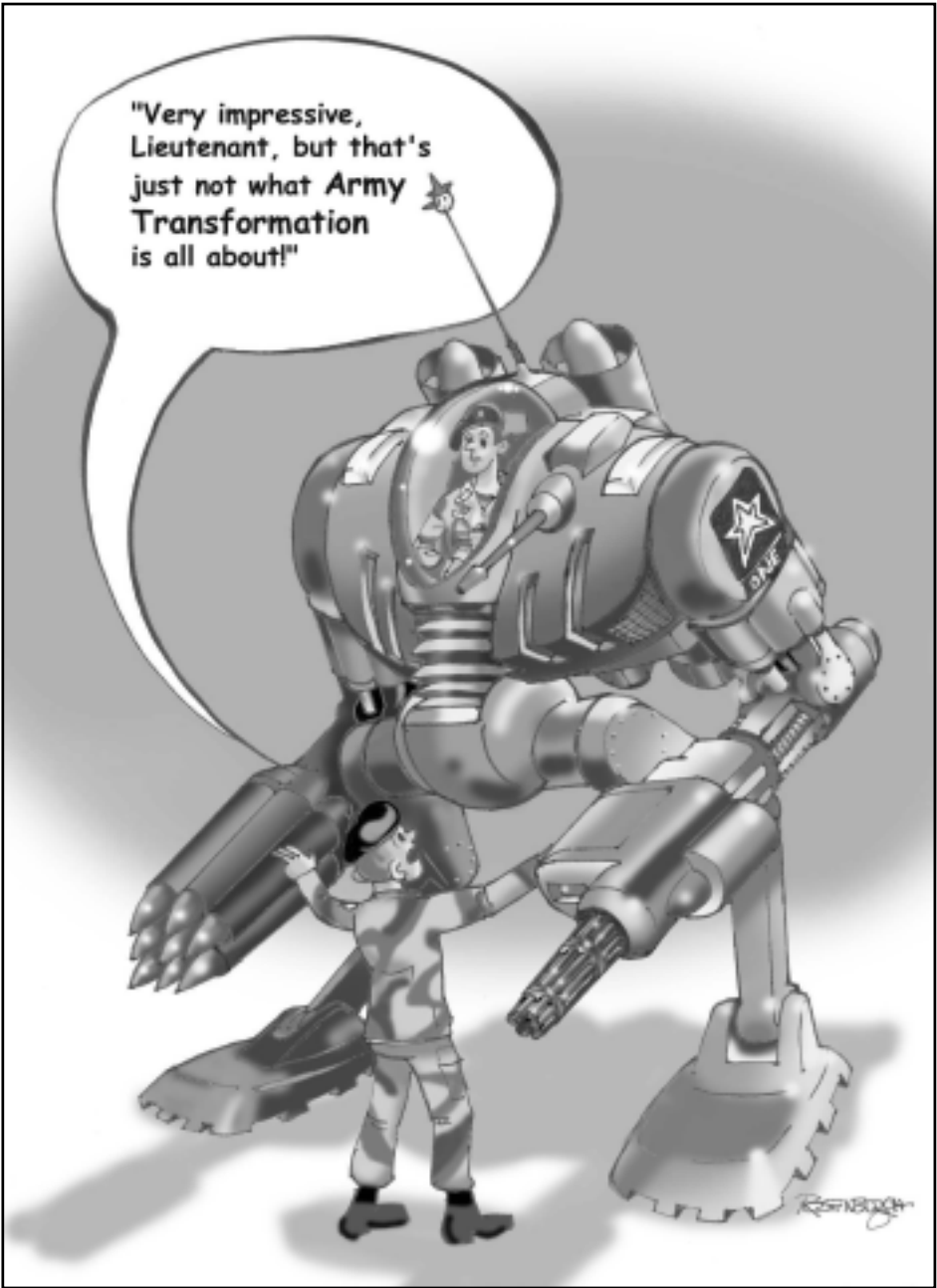
The battle will be long and difficult, however, but we are a people of strength and courage. We must focus our lives on the international objective of eliminating terrorism as a scourge on the face of the earth. In doing so, we ultimately create a better world for all mankind, well beyond our own shores and for the benefit of every peaceful nation. This is no lonely struggle, either, as nearly every nation on the planet either supports or joins us in this effort.

We all want to do something to help, but in the end it comes down to President Bush’s advice that we can serve best by going about our business as usual.

“The terrorists want us to stop our lives,” he said in an address to California business leaders, “that’s what they want. They want us to stop flying and they want us to stop buying. But his great nation will not be intimidated by evildoers.”



## 2nd Louie By Bob Rosenburgh



Ed Gayagas

### 35 cadets are coined at Aloha Stadium



Ed Gayagas

UH Pres. Evan Dobelle, Lt. Gen. Ed Smith and retired Lt. Gen. Allen Ono.

By Lt. Col. Robert Takao  
University of Hawaii

Thirty-five University of Hawaii Army ROTC cadets were handed

“Commander’s Coins” by 35 UH alumni in front of 31,000 fans in a halftime presentation at Aloha Stadium on Oct. 13. During the ceremony, retired Lt. Gen. Allen Ono presented coins to University of Hawaii President Evan Dobelle and Lt. Gen. Ed Smith, commanding general of the U.S. Army-Pacific. Visiting Ranger Challenge teams competing from Alaska, Guam, American Samoa and Hawaii were also recognized. Smith presented commander’s coins to the first-place team from the University of Alaska-Fairbanks.





# South Dakota cadets react to leadership challenges at FLRC

Story and photos by Maj. Larry Seefeldt  
University of South Dakota Army ROTC

The ROTC program at University of South Dakota got into full swing this fall, literally, with the Field Leadership Reaction Course held at the Boy Scout Camp near Yankton, S.D. *Operation Mercury* was planned and executed by the MS-IV cadet staff and included a series of obstacles challenging leaders both physically and intellectually. Stations included the rope bridge, rappel tower, rope tire obstacle, confidence climb and a variety of other obstacles which presented unique leadership challenges and required the application of problem solving skills.

“This was a very successful event and all the training goals for the operation were achieved,” said Cadet Jason Book. “It was a great opportunity for new students put in leadership positions to gain experience making decisions and a chance to learn from their mistakes.”

The object of the exercise not only challenged basic leadership and problem-solving skills but also focused on team

building, motivation, communication and confidence. Each team of cadets rotated through the stations while taking turns in the leadership position. An MS-IV cadet at each station then briefed the teams on the objective and safety issues and provided an After Action Review. Students learned how to be a good leader as well as a good team member.

One station, called the confidence drop, stressed trust and teamwork. At this, a student stood on a raised platform facing away from his teammates, who formed in two lines on the ground behind him. He then closed his eyes and fell backward, to be caught in the arms of his trustworthy teammates. Not as easy as it sounds, especially when you are the one up on the platform.

Another station which sounded easy enough, but proved much more difficult, was the “mine field” obstacle. Students had to cross a simulated mine field which had a series of randomly-positioned, raised points. They negotiated the obstacle from point to point using various lengths of boards to span the gaps and not touch the ground. This



Master Sgt. Stan Miller mans the rope and coaches Cadet Eliza Lane as she prepares to rappel from a tower during FLRC training.



Cadet Stephanie Kapinus moves from one problem to the next as she negotiates the tire swing obstacle.

obstacle proved to be the most challenging from a problem-solving perspective and few teams managed to make the crossing in the time allotted.

For many it was a first-time opportunity to rappel. Getting over that first step, leaning back from the tower, trusting the ropes and overcoming their natural fear of heights was a major accomplishment. Once safely on the ground again, most students couldn’t wait to scramble back up the tower and get as many rappels in as they could.

“We definitely saw increased confidence in all the students by the end of the day,” said Lt. Col. Manuel Rodriguez, the PMS at USD. “I think the major training benefit from this exercise is the sense of pride in accomplishment from overcoming fears and challenges as well as gaining valuable leadership experience. Students will carry this sense of pride and confidence as they take on other challenges in their college careers.”



Using a variety of objects to stay off the ground, Prairie Fire Battalion cadets make their way through a simulated minefield as an evaluator watches.

## UTEP Thunder Warriors Repeat Bataan Memorial Deathmarch Victory

By Capt. Jake Rose  
Univ. of Texas - El Paso ROTC

For the second consecutive year the Univ. of Texas - El Paso Army ROTC Thunder Warriors won the ROTC light division of the Bataan Memorial Deathmarch, a grueling 26.2-mile race through the desert of White Sands Missile Range, with a time of 5:43:37.

The winning team consisted of Cadet Kevin Kobylak, Cadet Stanley Vinet, 2nd Lt. Grahame Forestal, Capt. Jesus Silerio, and Capt. Jake Rose. The team faced stiff competition, hot weather, and the 1,200-foot rise in elevation along the course with determination, confidence and teamwork. Rose, the team captain, credits the victory to hard training, discipline and team cohesiveness.

“We had people hurting, one team member’s feet blistered horribly by mile 12, but we stayed with each other the whole way and pushed each other, sometimes literally, through the pain to the finish line,” he said.

Kobylak enrolled at UTEP in part because UTEP won the Bataan Deathmarch last year. He worked hard to ensure UTEP could keep the traveling trophy a second year. Last year’s team set a high standard, and it was the first time any members of this year’s team participated in the Deathmarch.

UTEP entered a second team consisting of Cadet Johanna Franco, Cadet Tracey McNaughten, Cadet Angela Veney, Sgt. Willie Jerry and Capt. Jorge Riera as team captain. They finished together, as a team and took fourth place with a time of 8:10:31. All the members of the Thunder Warrior teams worked hard to complete the event.

“It was hard, but nothing compared to what the original marchers went through in April of 1942,” Vinet said, alluding to the American and Filipino soldiers captured by the Japanese and marched for days through the Philippine jungles. Thousands died on the original march, and the survivors had to face years as prisoners of war.

## Hawaii honored with cash bonus

By Capt. Woody Stone

At 4th Region’s Senior Commanders’ Training Conference - held annually in Reno, Nev., during early November - the University of Hawaii received an unexpected honor.

Maj. Gen. John T.D. Casey, commander of the United States Army Cadet Command, presented a \$10,000 check to the school’s Professor of Military Science, Lt. Col. Robert K. Takao. The award was to recognize that program’s commitment to understand the intent of and aggressively execute Casey’s “Way Ahead” concept.

According to Hawaii’s Recruiting Operations Officer, Maj. Trey Johnson, the Rainbow Battalion has yet to decide how to spend the money, which came from discretionary funds at Cadet Command.

“We’ll have a panel decide - they might want to improve the cadet lounge or something else,” he said. Either way, congratulations are well deserved at that beach.



Lt. Col. Robert K. Takao’s Rainbow Battalion is from University of Hawaii.

## Correction:

In our last issue we identified a JROTC support day as being sponsored by New Mexico Military Institute, when, in fact, it was the Bataan Battalion at New Mexico State University which conducted the event on their campus. Also, 2nd Lt. John B. Lyle III is from NMSU, not NMML. Our apologies for the error.

-PAO